

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

\*MCPRD POSSESSES A **ZERO TOLERANCE** POLICY FOR COACHES, PARTICIPANTS, PARENTS AND SPECTATORS IN REGARDS TO INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT AND RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ASSESS SUSPENSIONS AND/OR PROHIBIT ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION AT THEIR DISCRETION IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SAFETY, APPROPRIATE CONDUCT AND OVERALL PROGRAM INTEGRITY. EACH COACH, PARTICIPANT, PARENT AND SPECTATOR WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING CONDUCT STANDARDS:

### **SPORTSMANSHIP/INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR:**

Any and all team-affiliated persons (coaches, participants, parents and spectators) must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner when involved in any Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department's youth athletic programs. This rule applies to conduct on all MECKLENBURG COUNTY PARK PROPERTY before, during, and after scheduled events.

NOTE: If spectators and/or affiliated persons' conduct become overly unruly & unsportsmanlike during the course of the game, the MCPRD staff & game officials reserve the authority to empty the facility & allow only coaches & players to remain, in the effort to finish game play.

### **BULLYING/INTIMIDATION:**

Coaches, participants, parents and spectators must not threaten, verbally abuse or make physical contact of an aggressive nature with any other coaches, participants, parents, spectators, Park and Recreation staff or officials.

### **COMMUNICATION WITH OFFICIALS:**

\*Questioning/Arguing judgment calls made by officials is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**.

ONLY HEAD COACHES will be permitted to consult with the OFFICIAL and this **MUST ONLY BE DONE IN A SPORTSMANLIKE MANNER**. It is in the best interest of head coaches to approach officials in a courteous manner and in the presence of staff whenever possible.

Arguing/disputing judgment calls is strictly prohibited and will be viewed as verbal abuse. Coaches, participants and/or spectators are not permitted to badger, criticize, harass or mock officials.

Coaches, participants, parents and spectators must not threaten, verbally abuse or make physical contact of an aggressive nature with any other coaches, participants, parents, spectators, Park and Recreation staff or officials.

### **COACHING STAFF:**

Head Coaches are **RESPONSIBLE** for the eligibility of all players, as well as the conduct of all participants, parents, and spectators. Assistant Coaches must remain seated at all times during the game. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a technical foul and will also result in the Head Coach being restricted to his/her bench and seated for the remainder of the game.

### **ALCOHOL/ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES:**

The possession of, use of and/or participation while under the influence of alcohol or any other illegal substance is strictly prohibited.

### **EJECTIONS:**

Any coaches, participants or spectators who are ejected will be automatically ineligible to coach, participate and/or spectate until such time that they are notified by the Youth Sports Development Staff

### **INCIDENT PROCEDURES:**

Individuals reported to be ejected or in violation of the Code of Conduct will be notified and asked to provide a written statement regarding the details of the incident in question, as well as their involvement or participation in said incident by 5:00pm of the following Tuesday to a Youth Sports Development Team staff member at [YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov). Failure to provide a written statement is viewed as an admission of guilt and will be grounds for suspension.

## SUSPENSIONS

Any Coaches, Participants or Spectators who are suspended from league play will be ineligible to coach, participate and/or spectate for the duration of their suspension term. This includes any and all program related activities and events. Any violation while under suspension will be treated as a 2nd offense and all penalties will apply, including extending the existing suspension. Any suspension occurring with less than two games remaining in regular season will result in suspension from the remaining regular season games, as well as any and all upcoming post-season tournament games. Any suspension for a term of 1 year or more will require a written request for reinstatement to be submitted following the suspension term. The request may be emailed to [YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov) or mailed to Youth Sports Development, 1225 Remount Rd., Charlotte, NC 28208. The Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department reserves the right to deny reinstatement and/or extend any and all suspensions.

## Parents' Code of Ethics

The Parents Alliance for Youth Sports (PAYS) program sets a standard for parent education by providing a video-based educational program which offers a simple, effective way to make youth sports parents aware of their roles and responsibilities as well as ways they can make their child's experience more enjoyable and positive.

***I, herby pledge, to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this PAYS Parents' Code of Ethics:***

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.

I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.

I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches' Code of Ethics.

I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will remember that the game is for youth - not for adults.

I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.

I will help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectful fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.

I will read the National Standards for Youth Sports and do what I can to help all youth sports organizations implement and enforce them.

---

Parent Signature

---

Date

---

Child's Name